



TOWN OF LOS GATOS

FALL 2004

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Town of Los Gatos Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of life in Los Gatos by providing the highest quality leadership and most efficient services and facilities.

To provide a working environment which promotes excellence, fosters cooperation and meets the needs of the community, council, employees, board and commission members, and volunteers.

Images of America: Los Gatos

October, 2004 is the release date for *Images of America: Los Gatos*, a pictorial history that covers the Town's history from 1860 to 1960. The book contains 227 black and white images, starting with the first picture ever taken in Los Gatos, an 1861 daguerreotype taken of a picnic near a place then called Forbes Mill, later Los Gatos.

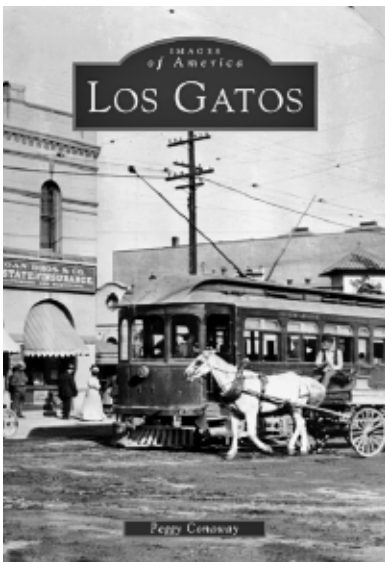
The publisher of the book is Arcadia Publishing, a company that specializes in local and regional histories. Arcadia has featured nearly 2,000 towns and cities across the country in its *Images of America* series.

The book's author is Los Gatos Public Library Director Peggy Conaway, who selected photographs from the library's collection; the Museums of Los Gatos collection; and collections at the Steinbeck Center, the Sourisseau Academy, and the

California Room, all located in the special collections at the new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in downtown San Jose. Additionally a number of descendants of Los Gatos pioneers generously shared historic family photographs, many never before published.

Images of America: Los Gatos is available for purchase at the Los Gatos Public Library, at the Museums of Los Gatos, at Borders bookstore in Old Town, and at a number of other businesses around town. The book can also be ordered via the major online retailers, such as www.amazon.com, www.bn.com, and www.borders.com.

All proceeds from the sale of this book will go to the Library's project to preserve the written and pictorial history of Los Gatos, "Hooked on Los Gatos, the Los Gatos History Project." For more information on Hooked on Los Gatos, visit the Library's website, library.losgatosca.gov.



Peggy Conaway

Annual Report Inside



The 2003/2004 Annual Report for the Town of Los Gatos is included in this issue of the Vista, beginning on page 5. The Annual Report highlights the Town organization's accomplishments from July 2003 through June 2004, and provides a glimpse into plans for the current fiscal year. We invite you to read on about the efforts the Town is making to keep Los Gatos such a special community, with your help.

Inside...

News Views	2
Transition of Sanitary Sewer Service Responsibility	2
Wildfire Survival Tips	2
Animal Control Services	3
Colon Cancer Screening	3
The Health of Local Eucalyptus	3
Pedestrian Safety Improvements	3
Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Event	4
Local Recycling Resources	4
America Recycles Day	4
Holiday Events	5
Holiday Parking	5
Concerned about Coyotes?	5
Senior Center News	6
Youth Commission	6
Friends Friday Forums	6
Children's Library Fall Program Series	7
Domestic Violence Month	7
Talk Back	7
Calendar of Events	8

Help Local Charities

Second Chance Week is a grassroots public awareness campaign held each October to promote reuse, repair, resale, and donation opportunities throughout California. As part of its ongoing efforts to promote waste diversion and to support local nonprofit organizations, the Town is sponsoring a donation drive during Second Chance Week this year.

You can do your part by donating the following items:

- adult and child sweaters
- wool scarves
- jackets, coats, raincoats, and wind-breakers
- men's jeans and sweatpants
- twin-size blankets and sheets
- towels
- new toiletries

- prescription eyeglasses
- non-prescription sunglasses with UV protection

Please, only donate the items listed, in good condition and clean. Your donations will be given to St. Luke's Episcopal Church and InnVision, local agencies that provide shelter and related services to the needy. Donated eyeglasses will go to the Los Gatos Lions Club's "Lions in Sight" program, which donates refurbished glasses to people in third world countries.

Donations will be accepted at the Neighborhood Center, 208 East Main Street, from 9 am to noon, October 18 through October 22.

For more information, call the Town's Recycling Coordinator, Lauren Mende Tacké, at (408) 399-5796.

Proposed Skateboard Park

The Town is developing preliminary plans for a skateboard park to be located at the Town-owned parking lot on Miles Avenue. This project has been discussed at several Town Council meetings, a neighborhood meeting, and two public workshops. Local skaters contributed to the design of the skatepark through the public workshops, at which they used clay, sidewalk chalk, and sketches to suggest

possible features for the above-ground, concrete park. The project is currently in the environmental review and conditional use process, which must be completed prior to proceeding with construction. Community fundraising for the skateboard park is also underway. For more information on the project, including how you can contribute, please contact Pamela Jacobs, Assistant Town Manager, at (408) 354-6832.



The *Town of Los Gatos Vista* is published by the Town of Los Gatos Community Services Department. Your comments are welcome.

Send your comments to:

Town of Los Gatos Vista
Attn: Community Services Director
PO Box 949
Los Gatos, CA 95031

(408) 354-6820

community@losgatosca.gov

News Views

Register to Vote

Exercise your right to vote in the November 2 election. The last day to register to vote is Monday, October 18. You can pick up a voter registration form at your local post office, the Los Gatos Library, and the Town Clerk's Office; or from the California Secretary of State website, at www.ss.ca.gov. More information about voter registration and the election is also available at the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters website, at www.sccvote.org.

Trash Service Rates

Green Valley Disposal Company provides trash collection, recycling services, and yard waste pickup for Town residents and businesses. These services are provided under an agreement between Green Valley and the Town. The rates for these services have not changed since 1995. Due to increasing labor, equipment, and environmental regulation compliance costs, it is likely that rates will be

increased beginning July 2005. Both the Town and Green Valley are proud that, in this current economic climate of spiraling costs of doing business, they have been able to hold rates steady for ten years. Any rate adjustment would be adopted by the Town Council at a public meeting, which would be well-advertised in local media and on the Town website, www.losgatosca.gov.

Leadership Los Gatos

The 2004/05 session of Leadership Los Gatos is set to begin this fall. Leadership Los Gatos is a joint project of the Town and the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce, that develops Los Gatos citizens for leadership roles in community and neighborhood organizations, schools, churches, and Town government. It includes 10 half-day sessions, which begin in the fall and end in early June. Participants gather to learn about the Town and to gain hands-on experience and leadership skills. Classes include behind-the-scenes tours of Town Hall and other public and private facilities serving the community including

a hospital, school, landfill, police and fire stations, and parks. For more information about Leadership Los Gatos, and to obtain an application, contact the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce at (408) 354-9300. Information is also available on the Chamber's website, www.losgatosweb.com.

Passport Services

Passport application forms and passport processing services are available at the Town Clerk's Office, 110 East Main Street. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call the Town Clerk's Office, at (408) 354-6834. Passport information is also available on the Town's website, www.losgatosca.gov – click on "Town Services & Departments," then choose "Passports" under the "Clerk's Office" area.

Passport application forms are also available at the Los Gatos Post Office, 101 South Santa Cruz Avenue, and on the United States Postal Service website, www.usps.gov/passport/.

Transition of Sanitary Sewer Service Responsibility

Did you know that the West Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County provides complete sanitary sewer services to all of the cities in the West Valley except the Town of Los Gatos? Under a 1977 agreement, the Town organization assumed responsibility for operation and maintenance of the public

sewers in Los Gatos and bought into the capacity of the District's trunk sewer system. The Town's responsibility includes scheduled cleaning of the main lines, unscheduled clearing of blockages to the main lines, operation and maintenance of pump stations, and repairs to the system infrastructure. The District has the responsibility for

permitting new sewer connections and the design and construction of public sewers within the Town.

Beginning in the spring or summer of 2005, the District will assume the maintenance and repair duties for all of the public sewer lines in Los Gatos. New government requirements pertaining to sanitary collection systems and pending regulations from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have made it more cost-effective for the District to provide all sanitary sewer services for Town residents.

Residents should not expect to see any changes in the maintenance of their sewer lines. The only difference will be whom to call when backups occur. Currently, residents who suspect a main line sanitary sewer backup should call the Town's Parks and Public Works Department, at (408) 399-5770. Backups in the home are the responsibility of the homeowner, who may call a private plumber for assistance.

After the District assumes responsibility, residents will call the District for response to a main line sanitary sewer backup. Backups in the home will remain the responsibility of the homeowner.

In the spring, look for more information in this publication and in other local media about the transition to District maintenance services, and for the number to call if you suspect a main line backup. For more information about sanitary sewer services in Town, call the Town's Parks and Public Works Department, at (408) 399-5770; or visit the Town's website at www.losgatosca.gov, choose "Town Services & Departments," then click on "PPW Department Info" in the "Parks & Public Works" area. For more information about the West Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County, visit its website, at www.westvalleysan.org.

Wildfire Survival Tips

For those who live in the many wooded areas of Los Gatos, the benefits of the natural rustic beauty also bring an added risk of fire. The tragic San Diego fires last year were a dramatic indicator of the dangers that exist in many areas of our community.

All vegetation, including naturally occurring native and ornamental plants, is potential wildfire fuel. If vegetation is properly modified and maintained, a wildfire can be slowed, the length of flames shortened, and the amount of heat reduced, all of which assist firefighters to defend a home against an oncoming wildfire.

To help hillside residents better safeguard their homes and property from wildfires, the Santa Clara County Fire Department offers the following list of preventative measures that can greatly reduce the risk of loss or damage to your home in the event of a hillside fire:

- Remove all flammable vegetation a minimum of 30 feet around all structures. Clear ornamental shrubbery and trees of dead leaves and branches.
- Remove all pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves, and rain gutters.
- Trim tree limbs 10 feet away from chimneys or stovepipes and remove any dead limbs hanging over roof tops.
- Cover chimney outlets or flues with a spark arresting, one-half-inch mesh, screen.
- Post a clearly visible house address, using at least four-inch-high numbers, for easy identification.

Earlier this year, the Santa Clara County Fire Department mailed a comprehensive publication entitled "Living with Fire in Santa Clara County" to several thousand homeowners living in high fire hazard areas. "Living with Fire in Santa Clara County" is a step-by-

step guidebook about how to make your home safe from wildfire; including creating a defensible space around structures, fire safe roofing, planting near power lines, and a complete list of fire and deer resistant plants for fire safe landscaping.

If you have questions about fire safety, or would like to request a copy of "Living with Fire in Santa Clara County," please contact the County Fire Office of Public Education, at (408) 341-4485. You can also find a PDF copy of the brochure on the Santa Clara County Fire Department website, www.sccfd.org, and on the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council website, www.sccfiresafe.org.

The Santa Clara County Fire Department serves the communities of Los Gatos, Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Saratoga, and unincorporated county areas.



Animal Control Services

Effective July 1, animal control services in Los Gatos are provided by the City of San Jose, Animal Care and Services Division. You may notice an increase in the level of service because of San Jose’s greater resources. San Jose has dedicated several animal control officers to serve Los Gatos, and therefore the response time to a call for service has improved. In addition, the Town’s cost for these services has been reduced.

A new state-of-the-art animal shelter is also under construction; a 43,500 square foot facility which will include a large exercise area for dogs, a spay and neuter

clinic, on-site veterinary staff, licensing services, educational programs for adults and children, adoption services, a lost and found, vaccine clinics, and 24 hour drop-off service for deceased animals. The new shelter is scheduled to open this fall and will be located at 2750 South Monterey Road, San Jose. It will be open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 am to 7 pm, and Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm.

Until the new shelter is open in San Jose, Los Gatos animals will continue to be housed at the Humane Society Silicon Valley, located at 2530 Lafayette Street, Santa Clara. For information about animals housed in this facility, call the Humane Society at (408) 727-3383.

For more information on any animal-related issue, contact the City of San Jose, at (408) 501-2130, or (408) 578-PAWS (7297). For specific questions regarding the shelter programs, please contact Shelter Operations Supervisor Kerrie Watkins, at (408) 501-2146; and for questions related to field services contact Field Operations Supervisor Charlie Atkins, at (408) 501-2149. Or, visit the San Jose website, at www.sanjoseanimals.com. If you would like more information on the Town’s animal control policies, please call Captain Alana Forrest of the Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department, at (408) 354-6859.

Pedestrian Safety Improvements

An important source of funding for improvements to the Town’s infrastructure is grants from local, state, and federal agencies. These grants must be applied for by the Town, and funding is generally restricted for use on a specific project or type of project.

Sidewalk Grant Awarded

During the summer, work was underway on the installation of new sidewalks to improve pedestrian safety, especially for students walking to school. Funding came from a state Safe Routes to Schools grant. Locations of the new sidewalks include:

- Winchester Boulevard between Daves Avenue and Pleasant View, serving Daves Avenue Elementary School and Fisher Middle School students
- Los Gatos Boulevard south of Shannon Road, and south of Louise Van Meter School, serving Fisher Middle School, Van Meter Elementary School, and Los Gatos High School students
- Roberts Road between George and Fisher Avenues, serving Fisher Middle School and Van Meter Elementary School students

Many thanks to the teachers and their classes who made art projects to be submitted with the grant application, and to the residents and local organizations who wrote letters of support. Your help was a big factor in getting these new sidewalks built!

Grant Applications

The following two applications for new competitive grants have been submitted; results should be announced by the end of this calendar year:

Safe Routes to Schools Grant, Round 5.

This grant, if awarded, will fund the installation of speed radar display boards near four of the Town’s public schools at their school zone entrances located on arterial roads. Many support letters and art projects were contributed by the community, and included in the application, demonstrating to the grant review board the strong support of these safety improvements by our community.

Transportation for Livable Communities Grant.

This Metropolitan Transportation Commission grant would fund the

construction of enhancements to the following three intersections as part of the downtown streetscape project:

- Highway 9 and Santa Cruz Avenue
- Highway 9 and University Avenue
- South Santa Cruz Avenue and Wood Road

These improvements, known collectively as the Gateway Project, will improve circulation and pedestrian access by modifying the existing intersections. Landscaping and hardscape visual improvements will also be used to beautify these key intersections.

Colon Cancer Screening

Are you one of the many Americans age 50 and older who are not current on the exams needed to find colon cancer early? If so, you should talk to your doctor about scheduling a screening test. Colon cancer is more than 90% preventable. Regular screening can help to prevent colon cancer by removing polyps before they become cancerous and by detecting colon cancer in its early stages. If everybody age 50 and older had regular screening tests, at least one-third of deaths from this cancer could be avoided. And this cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths.

There are several different screening tests that can be used to find polyps or colon cancer. Your doctor will talk with you about which test is right for you and how often you should be tested. Many insurance plans and Medicare help pay for colon cancer screening tests. Because colon cancer is highly preventable, the American Cancer Society is undertaking a major information campaign to make the public aware of the importance of the screening tests. You can find more information about colon cancer screening at www.cancer.org.

The Health of Local Eucalyptus

Los Gatos has long prided itself on its extensive urban forest, earning the distinguished “Tree City USA” award for 24 consecutive years. But a new threat to our trees has migrated up from southern California, and has already affected several eucalyptus trees in Town.

The Redgum Lerp Psyllid (*Glycaspis brimblecombei*) is a plant-juice sucking insect in the family Psyllidae. First discovered in southern California in 1998, it has since made its way to northern California. Psyllids feed by sucking plant sap through their strawlike mouthparts, and as their population grows, disable a tree: extensive defoliation weakens trees, can increase tree susceptibility to damage from other insects and diseases, and may contribute to premature death of some highly susceptible species.

Redgum Lerp Psyllids prefer over two dozen eucalyptus species, especially *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *E. rudis*, and *E. tereticornis*. According to University of California research, conventional pesticides are not very effective against this pest; biological and cultural controls are preferred. For more information on Redgum Lerp Psyllids, visit the University of California’s Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program website, at www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7460.html.

The Town’s Forestry program is exploring options for responding to Lerp Psyllids in local trees. Thinning or removal of trees may become necessary to control this pest.

Visit the Town of Los Gatos website at www.losgatosca.gov

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Event

Saturday, October 23 – West Valley College

What is household hazardous waste? It is any chemical that is defined by the state as flammable, corrosive, toxic, biohazardous, or an oxidizer — and it is illegal to dispose of improperly. But it is easy, convenient, and free for all residents of Santa Clara County to dispose of their household hazardous waste properly, through Santa Clara County’s Household Hazardous Waste Program.

The Household Hazardous Waste Program operates drop-off centers where you can dispose of your waste at no charge, throughout the year, at locations in San Jose, Sunnyvale, and San Martin. In addition, the program holds a drop-off event annually in the West Valley area. This year’s event will be held at West Valley College in Saratoga, on Saturday, October 23. You must make an appointment to drop off your items at either the year-round centers or at the special drop-off event; to make an appointment,

call the Household Hazardous Waste appointment line, at (408) 299-7300.

If you are unsure whether the substances in your garage are household hazardous waste or not, visit the County’s website, at www.hhw.org, for a full list. Some common household hazardous wastes include paint, solvents, pesticides, aerosols, fluorescent lights, mercury

thermometers, automotive fluids, and batteries. Consider taking an inventory of the products stored in your home — according to the County, products stored for more than a year are seldom used, and the risk of accidental poisoning of children and pets significantly outweighs any potential benefit of saving the product for future use.

Protect your family, your pets, and the environment by disposing of your hazardous products properly!



Local Recycling Resources

Green Valley Disposal & Recycling

www.greenvalley.com
(408) 354-2100

Obtain information about residential and commercial trash and recycling services, and special collection days.

Center for the Development of Recycling

www.recyclestuff.org
Countywide Recycling Hotline
(800) 533-8414

To find local places to recycle and reuse specific items, click on “Recycling Search.” To learn how to reduce your junk mail, click on “Junk Mail Reduction Kit.” To order the Guide to Recycling in the Construction and Demolition Industry, click on “Publications.”

Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Program

www.hhw.org
(408) 299-7300

Learn how and where to dispose of household hazardous wastes safely.

Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission of Santa Clara County

www.reducewaste.org
Recycling and Waste Reduction Program
(408) 441-1198
Home Composting Rotline
(408) 918-4640

To read about home composting, learn where to purchase a compost bin, or participate in a home composting workshop, click on “Home Composting.” To obtain a free junk mail reduction kit, click on “Residential.” To view a list of city-wide garage sales, click on “Residential.”

Town of Los Gatos Recycling Coordinator

www.losgatosca.gov
(408) 399-5796

Get personalized recycling information for your neighborhood, business, or residence.



**Go ahead,
let the kids eat dirt.**
(and grass for that matter)

Rest assured, using compost on your lawn and garden regularly makes it safe and green. And, practically edible. Why? Compost is great for the environment. It naturally weeds out what's bad—so you don't have to worry about the effects of hazardous chemicals on children, pets and those plentiful flying friends. But more than just being green, compost also keeps your yard green. It slowly feeds soil, holding nutrients and releasing them when needed. Plus it frees up existing soil nutrients and helps plants develop a better root structure. So give your yard some health food. Easy and beneficial, compost is an idea that will definitely grow on you.


Recycling & Waste Reduction Commission
of Santa Clara County and your City

For information on buying or making your own compost, call the Rotline at: **408-918-4640** or visit www.ReduceWaste.org.

America Recycles Day

On America Recycles Day, November 15, millions of people will learn about recycling, commit to increasing their recycling activities, and plan to purchase more products made from recycled materials. Now in its seventh year, America Recycles Day helps remind all Americans of our nation’s bountiful resources and of our personal responsibility as stewards to care for those resources. Where we cannot prevent or reduce waste, we should find ways to recycle. And when we go to the store, we should seek environmentally preferable products, including those with recycled content.

In the spirit of America Recycles Day, following are some things you can do to make a difference for the environment:

Reduce

When shopping, avoid over-packaged goods; buy in bulk when possible; only buy what you need.

Outdoors, leave grass clippings on the lawn and consider composting other yard waste.

Reuse

Avoid single-use throwaway products when a durable, reusable alternative is available.

Support thrift shops and other programs that provide access to used items.

Recycle

Recycle paper, newspaper, metal, glass, plastic, and even rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries.

Buy recycled paper for stationery, envelopes, bulletins, copying, and other uses.

For more information, visit the America Recycles Day website at www.americarecyclesday.org, or call Lauren Mende Tacké, Recycling Coordinator, at (408) 399-5796.

Holiday Events

Holiday Tree Lighting

December 3, 4 pm

Town Plaza Park

Sponsored by the Town and the Los Gatos Community Foundation, this annual event is the official kick-off to the Los Gatos holiday season. It is so much fun, Santa Claus usually makes time in his busy schedule to attend. This year, it is rumored that he will come at 6 pm, and stay one hour for photo opportunities. For more information, contact the Town Clerk's Office at (408) 354-6834, or visit the Town's website at www.losgatosca.gov.

Holiday Parade

December 4, 11 am

Downtown

This Los Gatos tradition is always held on the first Saturday in December. Bands, floats, youth groups, horses — and, of course, Santa Claus — make it a real hometown parade and holiday celebration. It is sponsored by the Los Gatos Lions Club, the Los Gatos



Christmas Foundation, the Town, and the Los Gatos-Saratoga Community Education and Recreation. For more information, contact the Recreation Department at (408) 354-8700, or visit its website at www.lgsrecreation.org.

Santa in the Park

December 5, 12, and 19, 10 am to 2 pm

December 18 and 23, noon to 4 pm

Town Plaza Park

Following his successful appearances at the Holiday Tree Lighting and the Holiday Parade, Santa will settle down with his elves in Town Plaza Park for some one-on-one time with his littlest fans. Children

and their parents are invited to visit Santa, take pictures, and enjoy some holiday treats. Santa will visit Town Plaza Park on Sunday, December 5, 12, and 19 from 10 am to 2 pm; Saturday, December 18 from noon to 4 pm; and Thursday, December 23 from noon to 4 pm. For more information, contact the Recreation Department at (408) 354-8700, or visit its website at www.lgsrecreation.org.

Holiday Carriage Rides

Throughout the season

Downtown

Beginning in October, the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce will accept reservations for holiday horsedrawn carriage rides, held Thursday through Sunday evenings in December. For more information, contact the Chamber at (408) 354-9300, or visit its website at www.losgatosweb.com.



Holiday Parking

Just in time for the upcoming holiday shopping season, plans are in place for the 2004 Holiday Parking Program. This year's program will begin Thanksgiving weekend, November 26, and will continue through December 24. The program is a cooperative effort of the Town and the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce, and enhances parking options to meet the holiday season's additional parking needs, and supports the local business community by creating a positive shopping experience for their customers. Features of the Holiday Parking Program include:

- Free valet parking on both levels of Lot 4, located between Grays Lane and Elm Street, for both customers and employees
- Unlimited free parking in the following locations:
 - Park Avenue lot, off West Main Street, near the Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Company
 - Montebello Lot, on Montebello Avenue, next to the Los Gatos Post Office
 - Miles Avenue Lot, on Miles Avenue east of Edelen Avenue
 - North Side Lot, on Highway 9 between University and Santa Cruz Avenues
 - South Side Lot, on South Santa Cruz Avenue, across from the Toll House Hotel
- Parking Ambassadors, who will assist you with finding parking locations and distribute holiday parking brochures
- Holiday Parking Plan marketing materials and free parking brochures, with maps of all unlimited free parking locations

For more information on holiday parking, contact Carol Musser, Parking Coordinator, at (408) 399-5716. For a detailed map of free parking locations in the downtown, visit the Town's website, at www.losgatosca.gov, click on "Town Services & Departments," then choose "Downtown Parking Maps" in the "Traffic & Parking" area.

Concerned about Coyotes?

Coyotes are venturing into Los Gatos neighborhoods in search of food and water. This is a fairly common occurrence this time of year. This year, however, the coyotes are more intrusive than usual. If you have concerns about coyotes in your neighborhood, call Santa Clara County's Vector Control program at (408) 792-5010.

Vector Control is responsible for all issues related to wild animals in the urban environment.

Vector Control uses an stepped approach to address the coyote situation.

It recommends as a first step the following preventive measures to discourage coyotes from coming into the urban area:

- Never intentionally feed coyotes
- Never leave human or pet food or water bowls out at night
- Secure garbage can lids or store garbage cans inside
- Keep cats and small dogs inside at night
- If cats cannot be contained indoors, install a 7-foot-tall post with enough space for the cat to sit on top, which provides a place for the cat to escape

- Keep dogs away from known den areas where young coyotes may live
- Construct fences at least 5.5 feet tall, with a galvanized wire apron buried at least 4 to 6 inches in the ground, and extending out from the fence at least 15 to 20 inches
- Clear brush and vegetation from backyards to eliminate habitat for prey that could attract coyotes

More information on steps to prevent coyote problems is available through Vector Control and on the Town's website, www.losgatosca.gov, under "What's New!". If preventive measures are unsuccessful and Vector Control determines that human health and safety is jeopardized, Vector Control may use "padded-jaw" leghold traps to capture coyotes. Trapping is only done as a last resort and when necessary.

Subscribe to the What's New! Email Delivery Service:
www.losgatosca.gov/new

Senior Center News

The Los Gatos Senior Center is located in the Neighborhood Center, at 208 East Main Street. It is a gathering place for local seniors. The Center is staffed by the Town’s Senior Coordinator and senior volunteers eager to assist you with questions about services, programs, and activities geared to seniors. If you or someone you love is a senior, we invite you to stop by for a cup of coffee and a tour of all the Senior Center has to offer.

Following is just a sample of the activities planned for this fall and winter:

River Rock Casino Day Trip

Experience the California wine country’s newest entertainment destination, the River Rock Casino, in the Alexander Valley. The Senior Center, in conjunction with Los Gatos-Saratoga Community Education and Recreation, is hosting a day trip to the casino November 12. The trip will leave the Senior Center at 8 am, and return at 6:30 pm. The ticket price includes round-trip transportation on a private luxury motorcoach. Space is limited, so call the Senior Center now to reserve your space on this fun trip.



Dinner Club

Do you love good food, but hate to go to restaurants by yourself? Join the Senior Center Dinner Club! The Dinner Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, for a no-host dinner at a local restaurant. Club members generally live alone, and enjoy the opportunity to get out and enjoy the company and conversation of others. For more information, call the Senior Center.

Wednesday Movies

On the fourth Wednesday of each month, a top-rated movie is shown in the Neighborhood Center Lounge at 1:15 pm. Admission and snacks are free! Join other film buffs and enjoy your favorites on the huge big-screen television.

Thanksgiving Dinner

On November 20, a special seniors-only Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at the Neighborhood Center. This free event is a wonderful opportunity for seniors to get together and enjoy a meal prepared and donated by generous local merchants. No reservations are required; just come and enjoy tasty food, good conversation, live music, and a chance at great door prizes. Dinner will be served at noon.

Holiday Dance

A Holiday Dance will be held this December at the Neighborhood Center, on a date to be determined. Live music will be provided by the popular local group The Nob Hill Sounds, and light holiday refreshments will be available. Admission is free, so mark your calendar now to join other lovers of good music and dancing for a holiday celebration.



Free Haircuts

Thanks to the generosity of local stylists, free haircuts are available on a bi-monthly basis, by appointment only. Call the Senior Center now to make an appointment for the next scheduled haircut days: January 3 and March 7. All haircuts are done at the Neighborhood Center, 208 East Main Street.

For more information on any Senior Center activity or service, call the Senior Center at (408) 354-1514. Or, visit the Town’s website, at www.losgatosca.gov, click on “Town Services & Departments,” then choose “Senior Center” in the Community Services area.

Youth Commission

The Town has a number of Boards and Commissions, the primary responsibility of which is to act as advisory bodies to the Town Council. Commissions are vital to our local government process; they identify issues of interest to the community, make policy recommendations to the Council, and initiate programs and services in response to community needs.

This spring, the Town Council established a new Youth Commission. The 15 members of the Commission are students entering grades 8 to 11 who attend a Los Gatos school and have a Los Gatos mailing address, or who attend any accredited school and live within the incorporated areas of Town. The purpose of the Youth Commission is to give our youth a greater voice in their community. Commissioners will explore the issues important to local youth, hold forums with other agencies and community organizations, undertake special projects addressing youth concerns, and review municipal matters referred to the Commission by the Town Council. The Youth Commission is supported by staff of the Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department and Los Gatos-Saratoga Community Education and Recreation.

For more information about the Youth Commission, visit the Town’s website, www.losgatosca.gov, click on “Town Government,” then “Boards & Commissions,” and choose “Youth Commission.” If you are a student who would like to get involved, consider volunteering to help with a Commission project. Or, attend a Commission meeting to learn about the latest issues and to share your ideas; they are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, in the Town Council Chambers, 110 East Main Street. Contact the Police Department at (408) 354-5257 to confirm the meeting date, location, and time.

Friends Friday Forums

The Friends of the Los Gatos Public Library is a nonprofit organization established to encourage use of the library, to support and enhance library service, and to raise the public’s awareness of the library and its resources. Through money raised from their regular used book sales, the Friends sponsor many library events, including the Friends Friday Forums.

The Friends Friday Forums are a succession of wonderful and varied evening programs, held free to the public. All Forum programs start at 7 pm for refreshments and socializing; presentations begin at 7:30 pm. They are

held in the Town Council Chambers, 110 East Main Street. Friday Forums are planned for November, January, and March; following is the program for the November Forum:

Images of America: Los Gatos November 5

Los Gatos Library Director Peggy Conaway will discuss her new book, *Images of America: Los Gatos*, a pictorial history of Los Gatos. Ms. Conaway wrote the book as part of “Hooked on Los Gatos, the Los Gatos History Project,” a collaboration between the library and the Museums of Los Gatos (see the related article on

page 1). A book signing is scheduled to precede the Forum discussion.

The introduction to the book was written by Dr. Kevin Starr, California State Librarian Emeritus, professor of history at USC and contributing editor to the *Los Angeles Times*. He is the author of a highly acclaimed six-volume series titled *Americans and the California Dream*.

For more information about the Friends Friday Forums, or about any of the programs sponsored by the Friends of the Library, visit the Library’s website at library.losgatosca.gov and click on “Friends of the Library.” As the dates for the January and March Friday Forums are set, they will be featured on the website.

This fall, the Library is hosting a variety of fun programs for kids and their families. All programs will be held at the Library, 110 East Main Street. No advance reservation is required. For more information about these programs, call the Children's Librarian at (408) 354-6893 or visit the Library's website at library.losgatosca.gov, and click on "Kids' Page." Please help the Library to offer satisfying programs for children by honoring the suggested age range for each event.

For Older Kids Only!
More Zines (Part II)
Thursday, October 21, 3:30 pm
For ages 12 and up.
Meet at the Teen Zone.

Family Night: Holiday Puppet Show by Caterpillar Puppets
Thursday, December 16, 6:45pm
For ages 4 and up.

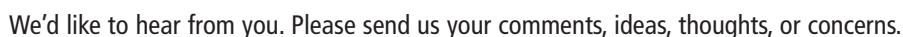
All Fall Program Series events are funded by the Friends of the Library.



October is nationally recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The cities, towns, and the county of Santa Clara are considered leaders in the state for proactive education, prevention, and accountability for domestic violence. Each year for the last seven years, elected officials, law enforcement, advocacy agencies, and social service workers have joined together in partnership for the annual Walk to End Domestic Violence, domestic violence conferences and symposiums, and media campaigns to shed light on one of America's best-kept secrets.

Domestic violence is an escalating pattern of abuse where one partner in an intimate relationship controls the other through force, intimidation, or the threat of violence. It affects many facets of our community, and does not discriminate based on socio-economic status, religion, or ethnicity. In 2003, 21 people in Santa Clara County lost their lives to domestic violence-related homicides and suicides. Seven of these people were children.

For more information about domestic violence, and how to get help, visit the Next Door: Solutions to Domestic Violence website, at **www.nextdoor.org**, or call the 24-hour hotline, (408) 279-2962. Information and help is also available on the Support Network for Battered Women website, **www.snbw.org**, and through its hotline, (800) 572-2782. Both organizations serve residents of Los Gatos, and are partially funded by the Town.

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Return to: Town Manager, Town of Los Gatos, P.O. Box 949, Los Gatos, CA, 95031/Fax to: (408) 354-8431/Email to: manager@losgatosca.gov.

Calendar of Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
Mondays	10:30 am	Toddler Story Time	Library	(408) 354-6891
Tuesdays	10:30 am	Pre-School Story Time	Library	(408) 354-6891
Fridays	10:30 am	Mother Goose Story Time	Library	(408) 354-6891
Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays				
October 14	3:30 pm	Children's Library Program	Library	(408) 354-6891
October 18 - 22	9 am to noon	Second Chance Donation Drive	Neighborhood Center	(408) 399-5796
October 21	3:30 pm	Children's Library Program	Library	(408) 354-6891
October 23	by appointment	Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off	West Valley College	(408) 299-7300
October 23 - 31	various	Red Ribbon Week	Town-wide	(408) 354-2730 x349
October 27	1:15 pm	Senior Wednesday Afternoon Movie	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
November 5	7 pm	Friends Friday Forum	Council Chambers	(408) 354-6891
November 12	8 am to 6:30 pm	Senior Day Trip	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
November 18	3:30 pm	Children's Library Program	Library	(408) 354-6891
November 19	6 to 8 pm	Art in the Council Chambers reception	Council Chambers	(408) 354-6820
November 20	noon	Senior Thanksgiving Dinner	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
November 24	1:15 pm	Senior Wednesday Afternoon Movie	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
December, TBD	6:30 pm	Senior Holiday Dance	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
December 3	4 pm	Holiday Tree Lighting	Town Plaza Park	(408) 354-6834
December 4	11 am	Holiday Parade	Downtown	(408) 354-7800
December 5, 12, 18, 19, 23	10 am to 2 pm, noon to 4 pm	Santa in the Park	Town Plaza Park	(408) 354-7800
December 16	6:45 pm	Children's Library Program	Library	(408) 354-6891
December 22	1:15 pm	Senior Wednesday Afternoon Movie	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
January, TBD	7 pm	Friends Friday Forum	Council Chambers	(408) 354-6891
January 26	1:15 pm	Senior Wednesday Afternoon Movie	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
February 2	1:15 pm	Senior Wednesday Afternoon Movie	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
March, TBD	7 pm	Friends Friday Forum	Council Chambers	(408) 354-6891
March 23	1:15 pm	Senior Wednesday Afternoon Movie	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514
April 27	1:15 pm	Senior Wednesday Afternoon Movie	Neighborhood Center	(408) 354-1514

For a complete calendar of Town events, visit the Town website at www.losgatosca.gov, and click on "Calendar of Town Events."



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